

# Heaven

The apostle John was told to write, “*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them*” (Rev. 14:13). The Word of God has much to say about a heavenly rest and those who will be there.

## **What will heaven be like (God’s draw; cf. Jn. 6:44-45)?**

Heaven will be a place of rest (II Thess. 1:7; Heb. 3-4; Rev. 14:13), comfort (I Thess. 4:13-18; II Thess. 2:16), rejoicing (I Thess. 5:16), and peace (I Thess. 5:23). There will be no death, sorrow, heart aches, disease, sickness, pain, tears, hunger or thirst in heaven (Rev. 21:3-4). The heavenly city (New Jerusalem) will be a place of total perfection as is represented by the term “*foursquare*” (Rev. 21:1-2, 16). The word “*foursquare*” (*tetragonos*) = “a square with four equal angles; metaph. Square, i.e., perfect” (LS 802). “Shaped like a cube of a tremendous rock” (AG 813). If one furlong equals 1/8 of a mile, the city was 1,500 miles in each direction, making an enormous perfect cube (Rev. 21:16). Interestingly, the most holy place in Solomon’s temple was a perfect cube (cf. I Kings 6:14-20). The language is figurative and simply indicates the perfect nature of heaven. The inhabitants shall continually drink of the water of life and eat of the tree of life (Rev. 22:1-5).

## **Who will be in heaven?**

There will be no sin or sinners in heaven. The residence will all have been forgiven of their sins through a spirit of humility while living in this earth (Rev. 21:23-27; Matt. 5:2-3; Isa. 57:15; Lam. 5:16, 17, 21). Those who experience the **rest** of heaven will be those who exercised an obedient faith while living in this earth (Rev. 14:13; II Thess. 1:7; Heb. 3-4). God’s eternal rest is contingent upon one’s obedience to His commands (Heb. 3:12, 16-18; 4:1, 9-10). To obey is to truly believe and to live in disobedience is to display a spirit of unbelief (cf. Heb. 3:18-19; Jn. 3:16, 36; 5:38).

## **What will we be like in heaven?**

We will be clothed with immortality (II Cor. 5:2). There will be a change that takes place in our resurrected bodies (I Cor. 15:51-56). We will be as the Lord who created us and we shall see Him (I Jn. 3:1-3). The faithful will be crowned with glory (Rev. 2:10) and wear their eternal robes of white (Rev. 3:5).

## **When will the saints be in heaven?**

Jesus said, “*But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only*” (Matt. 24:36). When the Lord does come again to bring His saints home to glory, there will be very specific events occur. First, the Lord will come to the earth to claim His own (I Thess. 4:13-18). The end shall then come (I Cor. 15:24-28). Jesus will judge humanity. The Lord will condemn to hell those who lived as un-repenting sinners and there shall they ever be with the devil (II Thess. 1:7-12; Rev. 20:10-15). The earth that we now live in will be burned up (II Pet. 3:10-13). Finally, the new heavenly Jerusalem shall descend wherein the righteous shall live for eternity (Rev. 21:1-3).

## **Where will you spend your eternity?**